

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- Claim 1. A boot comprising:
- a outer sole;
  - an outer upper comprising an impervious portion;
  - a heel stiffener positioned within and stitched to said outer upper along at least one stitched seam having at least a portion extending downwardly and forwardly;
  - at least one outer reinforcing element extending along said outer upper from said outer sole, said at least one outer reinforcing element assembled to said outer upper with cement at least in said impervious portion of said outer upper, said outer reinforcing element covering said stitched seam.
- Claim 2. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:
- said outer reinforcing element surrounds a heel region of said outer upper and includes arms extending downwardly and forwardly over said stitched seam.
- Claim 3. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:
- said outer reinforcing element is a separate element from said outer sole.
- Claim 4. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:
- said outer reinforcing element is unitary with said outer sole.
- Claim 5. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:
- said reinforcing element comprises a heel reinforcement.
- Claim 6. A boot according to claim 5, wherein:
- said heel reinforcement comprises a vertical extension forming a collar for tightening said outer upper to a lower leg of a wearer of the boot.

Claim 7. A boot according to claim 6, wherein:

said collar comprises the only means for tightening said outer upper to the lower leg of the wearer.

Claim 8. A boot according to claim 5, wherein:

said outer heel reinforcement is affixed on at least one portion of said outer sole.

Claim 9. A boot according to claim 1, further comprising:

an inner tightening system comprising two flexible flaps fixed within said outer upper by means of at least one stitched seam, said at least one stitched seam covered by said outer reinforcing element.

Claim 10. A boot according to claim 1, further comprising:

a detachable liner provided with a sole made of a shock-absorbing material.

Claim 11. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:

said impervious portion of said outer upper extends downwardly to said outer sole.

Claim 12. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:

at least said impervious portion of said outer upper comprises a coating for effecting imperviousness.

Claim 13. A boot according to claim 1, wherein said:

said outer reinforcing element is assembled to said outer upper only by means of cement.

Claim 14. A boot according to claim 13, wherein:  
at least said impervious portion of said outer upper comprises a coating for effecting imperviousness.

Claim 15. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:  
said cement extends to an upper cementing limit;  
said at least one outer reinforcing element is attached to said outer upper up to said upper cementing limit only by means of said cement.

Claim 16. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:  
said outer upper comprises a flexible fabric.

Claim 17. A boot according to claim 16, wherein:  
at least said impervious portion includes an impervious coating on said outer upper.

Claim 18. A boot according to claim 1, wherein:  
said impervious portion of said outer upper comprises a coated fabric.

Claim 19. A boot comprising:  
an outer sole;  
at least one outer reinforcing element;  
at least one additional part comprising at least one impervious portion, said at least one impervious portion comprising an outer upper, said outer upper extending longitudinally substantially from a front end to a rear end of the boot;  
said outer reinforcing element extending along a lesser longitudinal extent than said outer upper;  
said outer reinforcing element being attached with cement to said at least one impervious portion of the boot from a lower end of said at least one impervious portion of the boot up to a cementing limit, said outer reinforcing element extending above said cementing limit.

Claim 20. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:

said outer reinforcing element above said cementing limit comprises at least part of a tightening system for tightening the boot onto a wearer.

Claim 21. A boot according to claim 20, wherein:

said tightening system comprises a pair of laterally spaced flaps formed by said outer reinforcing element above said cementing limit adapted to tighten the boot onto a foot of the wearer.

Claim 22. A boot according to claim 20, wherein:

said tightening system comprises a collar formed by said outer reinforcing element above said cementing limit adapted to tighten the boot onto a lower leg of the wearer.

Claim 23. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:

said at least one additional part further comprises a gaiter spaced above said outer sole and attached to said outer upper.

Claim 24. A boot according to claim 23, wherein:

said outer reinforcing element is attached to said gaiter and extends from said gaiter above said cementing limit.

Claim 25. A boot according to claim 23, wherein:

said cementing limit is positioned at a height above a lower extent of said gaiter;

said outer reinforcing element is cemented to said gaiter up to said cementing limit.

Claim 26. A boot according to claim 25, wherein:

said outer reinforcing element above said cementing limit comprises a collar adapted to tighten the boot onto a lower leg of a wearer.

Claim 27. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:

said cement extends to an upper cementing limit;

said at least one outer reinforcing element is attached to said outer upper up to said upper cementing limit only by means of said cement.

Claim 28. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:

said outer reinforcement comprises a lateral portion and a medial portion;

each of said lateral and medial portions of said outer reinforcement comprises an upper edge extending downwardly and forwardly to said lower end of said at least one additional part at an intermediate portion spaced from said front end of the boot.

Claim 29. A boot according to claim 28, wherein:

said at least one additional part further comprises a heel stiffener attached to said outer upper by means of stitched seams extending downwardly and forwardly on lateral and medial sides of the boot;

said outer reinforcement completely covers said stitched seams.

Claim 30. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:

said outer upper is made of a flexible material.

Claim 31. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:

said outer reinforcing element is attached to said at least one additional part only with said cement.

Claim 32. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:  
above said sole, the boot includes no stitching on an exposed outer surface of said outer upper.

Claim 33. A boot according to claim 32, wherein:  
said outer reinforcing element covers stitching on an outer surface of said outer upper.

Claim 34. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:  
said outer upper further comprises a longitudinally extending opening in a forefoot region;  
the boot further comprises a gaiter attached to said outer upper, said gaiter covering said longitudinally extending opening of said outer upper.

Claim 35. A boot according to claim 34, wherein:  
said gaiter is attached to said outer upper with stitching.

Claim 36. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:  
said cement is located in a cementing zone extending from said sole to substantially mid-height of said outer upper.

Claim 37. A boot according to claim 19, wherein:  
at least said impervious portion of said outer upper comprises a coating for effecting imperviousness.

Claim 38. A boot according to claim 19, further comprising:  
a detachable liner positioned within said outer upper, said liner being provided with a sole.